

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, as indicated on page 2 of the present Office Action, the Examiner requests that Applicant submit a translated certified copy of the foreign priority document. Please find enclosed a translated certified copy of the foreign priority document.

The Examiner maintains his objection to the specification, as indicated on pages 2 and 3 of the present Office Action. In the previous Amendment filed on February 27, 2004, it was pointed out that the appropriate sections were added to the specification, in a preliminary Amendment filed on November 30, 2000. In the present Office Action, the Examiner indicates that "no Preliminary Amendment is available", therefore the Examiner requests that Applicant submit a new organized specification without any new additional matter.

Accordingly, Applicant submits the enclosed substitute specification (without claims), including some of the sections recommended by the Examiner. Applicant believes that this submission obviates the Examiner's objection to the specification.

Claims 1-9 are all the claims pending in the application. The Examiner maintains the rejections of claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Rich, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,457,065), hereinafter referred to as Rich. The Examiner also maintains the rejection of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Rich in view of Applicants' admitted prior art (AAPA).

§ 102(e) Rejections (Rich) - Claims 1-8

The Examiner maintains the same rejections of claims 1-8 as set forth in the previous Office Action, however, the Examiner adds new arguments in the *Response to Arguments* section of the present Office Action, on pages 4-9.

First, in response to the arguments in the present Office Action with respect to claim 1, Applicant maintains the same arguments set forth in the previous Amendment as well as submits the new arguments set forth below.

In the previous Amendment, it was argued that Rich does not teach or suggest at least “assigning to a father object in a process, for each son object, information referring back to said central directory if the son object is not contained in the same process,” as recited in claim 1. In the present Office Action the Examiner responds to this particular argument, as set forth in the paragraph bridging pages 5 and 6 of the present Office Action. Specifically, the Examiner alleges:

Rich teaches every node of the tree structure, i.e., including a root of the tree, using persistent object storage to store information of the objects, col. 3, lines 13-37. Rich also teaches usage of a directory/path mechanism, i.e., central directory, to retain information on the objects, for example, top-level transaction information, col. 9, lines 3-67. Rich also teaches a node for multiple transactions in which a node can be a parent for some transactions while being a child for other transactions. The parent/child node uses of directory/path mechanism to retain information on the objects and to refer the directory/path to support the transaction. The verification of whether a child/parent node in the same process is performed by the code executing on the server and client nodes. Col. 9, lines 3-67. Therefore, Rich meets the claim limitation of “assigning to a father object in a process, for each son object, information referring back to said central directory if the son object is not contained in the same process”. It is noted that the claimed subject matter only discloses a central directory, which can be any directory/path dealing with some other objects and having no relation to the Applicants’ intended implementation of a tree for distributed objects within several processes. The different processes can be any processes or a single process and not limited to several distributed processes. The distributed objects may not need to be distributed at all. The father object can be a son of the son object or the son object itself. The assignment of the father object in a process can be any process and not limited to the distributed processes. Therefore Examiner believes the reference teaches the limitation as disclosed above.

As indicated in the previous Amendment, the Examiner only generally describes the alleged teachings of Rich, but none of the teachings, as set forth above, for instance, satisfy the specific limitations of claim 1. That is, even if, assuming *arguendo*, Rich teaches a node for multiple transactions in which a node can be a parent for some transactions while being a child for other transactions, as the Examiner asserts, the specific step of “assigning to a father object in a process, for each son object, information referring back to said central directory if the son is not contained in the same process,” is not satisfied. The Examiner’s assertion is only based on this general alleged description of Rich. Moreover, the general statement that a parent/child node uses a directory/path mechanism to retain information on objects does not render the above claim limitations satisfied by Rich either. Furthermore, the Examiner alleges that “verification of whether a child/parent node in the same process is performed by the code executing on the surveying client nodes,” is discussed at column 9, lines 3-67. In fact, Applicant does not quite understand how this statement is relevant to the above quoted limitation, as the Examiner has not identified which components of Rich correspond to the claimed father object, the claimed son object, and the claimed same process. Nowhere has the Examiner identified aspects of Rich that correspond to the specific claimed components and/or features of the present invention, as set forth in claim 1. Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that the Examiner has not established that each and every limitation, as set forth in claim 1, is satisfied by Rich.

With respect to dependent claims 2-8, Applicant submits that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their respective indirect or direct dependencies from independent claim 1.

Further, with respect to dependent claim 2, in the previous Office Action it was argued that Rich does not teach or suggest at least “if said logical name is not in the central directory,

the central directory searches its data structure for a logical name with the longest character string equal to a first part of the character string of the logical name received, in order to send to a father object, the request relating to the first object,” as recited in claim 2. As similarly argued above, Applicant submits that the Examiner simply generally describes the alleged teachings of Rich. The Examiner, however, does not discuss and Rich does not teach or suggest the central directory searching its data structure for a logical name with the longest character string equal to a first part of the character string of the logical name received. Further, the Examiner alleges, generally, that a physical node may have nodes of transaction trees for multiple transactions, and may be a parent for some transactions while being a child for other transactions. However, this particular allegation, even if, assuming *arguendo*, it is true, does not satisfy the particular portion of the above quoted limitation that recites “to send to a father object, the request relating to the first object.” Moreover, Applicant again points out that the Examiner has not established which components or aspects of Rich correspond to the claimed father object and/or first object, as set forth in claim 2.

Further, with respect to claim 4, in the previous Amendment it was argued that Rich does not teach or suggest at least “the central directory manages the redundancy of the processes by selecting one of several processes containing the requested object,” as recited in claim 4. In response to this particular argument, the Examiner makes the allegations set forth in the full paragraph on page 8 the present Office Action. In that paragraph, the Examiner essentially refers to previous arguments made earlier in the Office Action and cites and recites the language that is recited at column 13, line 29 through column 14, line 19 of Rich. In response, Applicant maintains, as set forth above, that still nowhere has the Examiner identified corresponding

aspects of Rick that allegedly satisfy the specific claim components and/or features of the claimed invention. Further, the cited portion of Rich does not even relate to or involve managing the redundancy of processes, as recited in claim 4. Therefore, at least for these reasons, Applicant submits that Rich does not satisfy the limitations of claim 4.

At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-8 are patentably distinguishable over Rich.

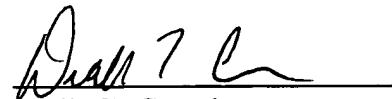
§103(a) Rejections (Rich/AAPA) - Claim 9

Applicant submits that claim 9 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 1. The AAPA does not make up for the deficiencies of Rich.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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